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CIA
BY ELIOT BRENNER
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CIA Director William Casey said Wednesday U.S. and allied efforts have frustrated Soviet policy and given the Russian leadership setbacks worldwide.

He cautioned, however, in remarks to the Senate Armed Services Committee, that "despite setbacks, the Soviets just keep coming, pushing what the traffic will bear at the particular moment."

Committee Chairman Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz., released an unclassified summary of Casey's classified briefing to the committee Wednesday.

In his review of "the principal threats" confronting the United States, Casey said he wanted to note that "the Soviet Union is experiencing many setbacks, at home and abroad, as are certain of its allies, and that a number of situations in the world are working to the Free World's advantage at present."

Among Soviet problems and setbacks, Casey made mention of the 100,000 Soviet occupation troops in Afghanistan, which was invaded five years ago, and of the progress of democratic institutions in Latin America.

But he also noted that Nicaragua and Ethiopia, Soviet allies, are major military powers in their areas, that there are 30,000 Cuban troops in Angola, and Vietnam now has the world's fourth largest army and the Soviets now base naval vessels and combat aircraft there.

Even though the Soviets have had their problems, he said, "the military and subversive threat to the world posed by the Soviet Union and its associates remains substantial."

Among the promising signs for the United States and its allies is "the fact that U.S. and allied staunchness has greatly frustrated Soviet policy. ... The ways and means which so profited the Soviet Union in the world in the mid and late 1970s no longer seem to work so well."

"Despite the many problems we face in the world, the Soviets probably confront even greater difficulties than we do," he said in the summary.